

# **Travis County Trend Profile**

Selected Census Data from 2000, 2010, and 2020

Travis County Health and Human Services | Research & Planning Division





# The Purpose of the Travis County Trend Profile



This report is intended to provide an at-a-glance, 20-year profile of the Travis County community using census data from 2000, 2010, and 2020. By providing data points in 10-year intervals, spanning 2000 to 2020, our intent is to provide a long-view for understanding population growth and demographic change in Travis County. We hope this information is helpful in local efforts to improve programs, influence funding decisions, and shape local policies. We encourage readers to borrow and cite this material.

#### About the Data Source: The Decennial Census, Redistricting Data Summary File

The U.S. Census Bureau produces many data products and administers a wide variety of surveys. Perhaps the most well-known is the Decennial Census, which surveys every household in the United States once every ten years to provide the U.S. Congress with an official count of the entire U.S. population. The data contained in this report comes from the 2020 Census State Redistricting Data Summary File.

The Census Bureau has modified some data released in the 2020 Redistricting Data Summary File to protect confidentiality. The Census Bureau uses a disclosure avoidance system based on differential privacy to disguise the original data while making sure the results are useful and individual confidentiality is secure.<sup>1</sup>

The U. S. Census Bureau reported that as of October 19, 2020, 99.98% of all housing units and addresses were accounted for.<sup>2</sup> The 2020 nation-wide census self-response rate was 67%, with the rest having been accounted for through the Nonresponse Follow-up (NRFU) operation.<sup>3</sup> Texas had a self-response rate of 62.8%, whereas Travis County matched that of the nation with 67.3%, which exceeded the 2010 self-response rate of 66.2%.<sup>4</sup>

#### Limitations

The U.S. Census Bureau occasionally makes revisions to survey questions in between censuses, such as changes in question wording, answer choices, or universe (i.e. the population considered). We have footnoted data points with significant differences between censuses that make direct comparisons difficult.

The 2020 Decennial Census employed new methodologies to conduct Address Canvassing and to optimize self-response. Additionally, it used administrative records and third-party data to reduce nonresponse follow-up workload, and used technology to reduce the manual effort and improve the productivity of field operations. Despite these new and improved methods, some populations, such as those experiencing homelessness and people without documented U.S. residency or citizenship remain hard to reach, and not everyone is captured in the data.

Information on the Decennial Census and 2020 Census State Redistricting Data Summary File methodologies is adapted from materials published by the U.S. Census Bureau and available online at www.census.gov.

<sup>1- 2020</sup> Census State Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File Prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau, 2021

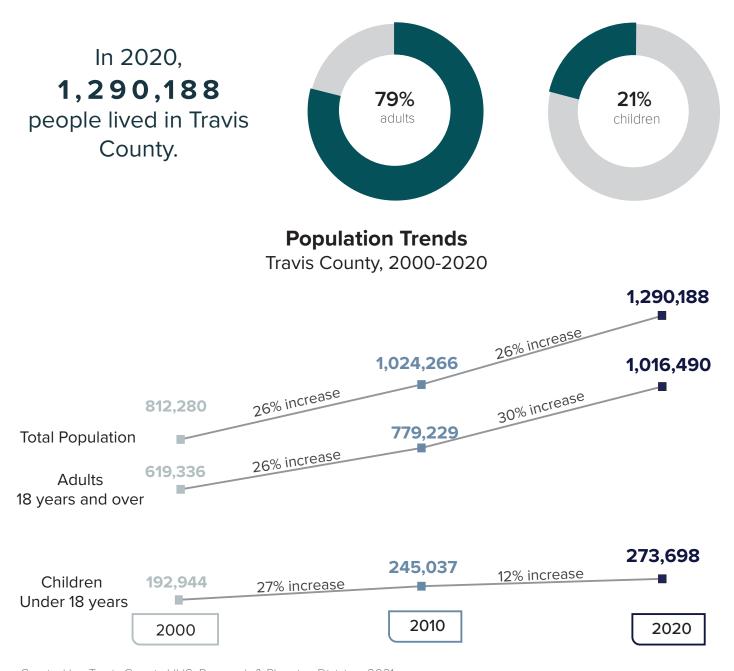
<sup>2 -</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census Response Rate Update: 99.98% Complete Nationwide, https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2020/2020-census-all-states-top-99-percent.html

<sup>3 -</sup> Ibid

<sup>4 -</sup> Ibid., 2020 Census: Tracking Self Response Rate Map, https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/2020-census-self-response-rates-map.html

# **Demographic Trends**

This section provides a broad overview of population trends by age groups, and by race and ethnicity groups.



Created by: Travis County HHS, Research & Planning Division, 2021 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census Redistricting Data, 2000 - PL004; 2010 - P3; 2020 - P3

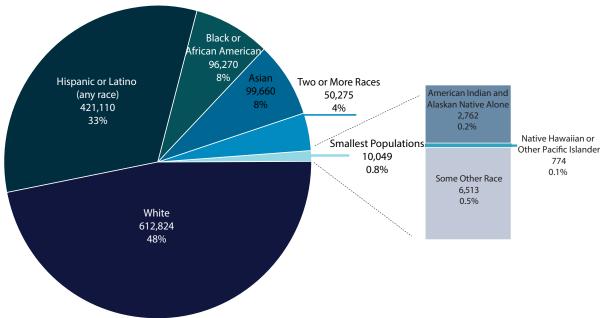
Travis County's total population steadily increased between 2000 and 2020, growing by 52%.

From 2000 to 2010 the adult and the child populations grew at around the same rate, 26% and 27%, respectively. However, from 2010 - 2020 the adult population continued its accelerated growth with a 30% increase, whereas the child population grew at a slower rate, only by 12%.

# Population by Race and Hispanic Origin



Total population, Travis County, 2020 (n = 1,290,188)



Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.
Created by: Travis County HHS Research & Planning Division, 2021; Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census Redistricting Data, P2

In 2020, the largest race-ethnicity group was White Non-Hispanic (48%), followed by Hispanic or Latino of any race (33%). Black or African American and Asian populations each accounted for roughly 8% of the total population.

	2000		2010		2020	
Race or Ethnic Group	Count	% of Population	Count	% of Population	Count	% of Population
American Indian and Alaskan Native	2,261	0.3%	2,611	0.3%	2,762	0.2%
Asian	35,842	4.4%	58,404	5.7%	99,660	7.7%
Black or African American	73,242	9.0%	82,805	8.1%	96,270	7.5%
Hispanic or Latino, any race	229,048	28.2%	342,766	33.5%	421,110	32.6%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	390	<0.1%	540	0.1%	774	0.1%
Some Other Race Alone	1,429	0.2%	1,813	0.2%	6,513	0.5%
Two or More Races	12,251	1.5%	17,683	1.7%	50,275	3.9%
White	457,817	56.4%	517,644	50.5%	612,824	47.5%
Total	812,280	100%	1,024,266	100%	1,290,188	100%

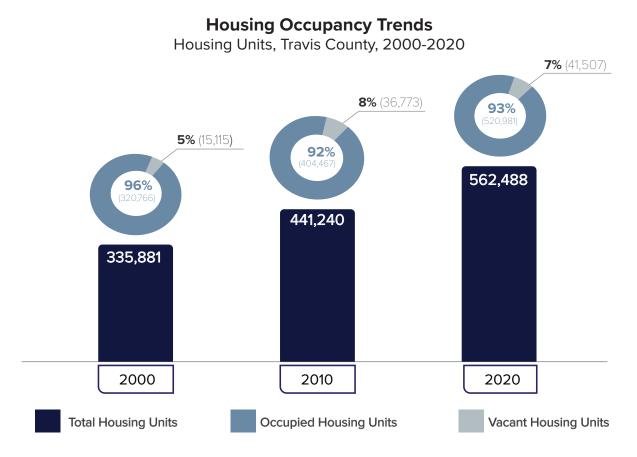
The table compares each race or ethnicity group's population count and the proportion of the Travis County total population that each group makes up from 2000 to 2020. The population count of every race or ethnicity group increased between 2000 and 2020, with the largest count increases occurring in the Two or More Races population (+310%), followed by the Asian population (+178%) and Hispanic or Latino of any race population (+84%). These same groups also increased their share of the Travis County total population. Though the White population and Black or African American population counts also increased by +34% and +31% respectively, these two groups saw a decrease in their share of the total population, -8.9 percentage points and -1.5 percentage points respectively from 2000 to 2020.

# **Housing and Household Trends**

All living quarters intended for residential use are classified as either housing units or group quarters. This section describes the trends in housing units and housing occupancy, and populations living in households and group quarters.



The number of housing units in Travis County has increased by 68% over the last 20 years. Total housing units grew by 31% between 2000 and 2010, and by 28% between 2010 and 2020. While the number of both vacant and occupied housing units has increased between 2010 and 2020, the proportion of vacant units decreased by 1% percent, and occupied units increased by 1%.



Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

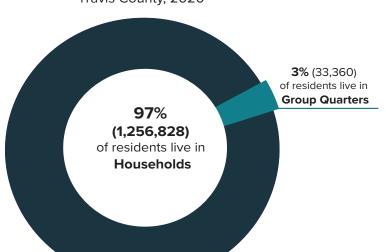
Created by: Travis County HHS, Research & Planning Division, 2021; Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census Redistricting Data, 2000 H003. 2010 H1, 2020 H1

Occupied Housing Unit: A housing unit is occupied if a person or group of persons is living in it at the time of the interview or if the occupants are only temporarily absent, as for example, on vacation. The persons living in the unit must consider it their usual place of residence or have no usual place of residence elsewhere. The count of occupied housing units is the same as the count of households.<sup>5</sup>

# **Population by Housing Type**

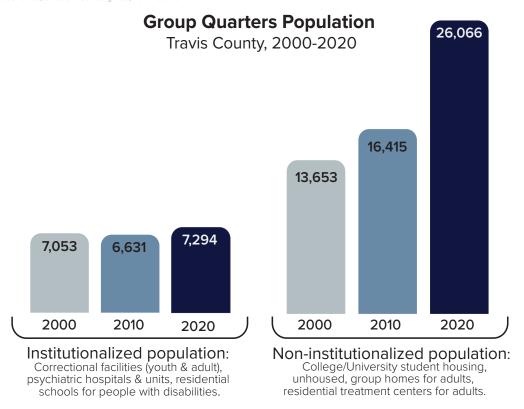
Travis County, 2020

Created by: Travis County HHS, Research & Planning Division, 2021 Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Census Redistricting Data. 2020 P3 & P5



A single individual or a group living in a housing unit is defined as a household. In 2020, 97% of Travis County residents lived in Households whereas 3% lived in Group Quarters. These proportions have stayed stable since 2000.

Group quarters are places where people live or stay in group living arrangement that are owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents. People living in group quarters are usually not related to each other.<sup>6</sup>



Created by: Travis County HHS, Research & Planning Division, 2021 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census Redistricting Data, 2000 - P037; 2010 - P42; 2020 - P5

Overall, the number of persons counted in group quarters has steadily climbed over the years: 20,706 in 2000; 23,046 in 2010; and 33,360 in 2020.

Though the number of institutionalized persons has remained relatively steady between 2000 and 2020, the non-institutionalized population has increased 91% from 2000 (13,653) to 2020 (26,066). This increase stems largely from persons in "Other Noninstitutional Facilities," which include: Emergency and transitional shelters, soup kitchens, targeted non-sheltered outdoor locations, group homes intended for adults, and residential treatment centers for adults.<sup>7</sup>

Further analysis and secondary sources are needed to better understand the increase of non-institutionalized persons.

#### Data by Geography

Information in this report is available by geography through the City of Austin.

#### **Questions or Comments?**

This report was researched and written by the staff at Travis County Health and Human Services, Research & Planning Division. Lead writers were Nathan Fernandes, April Klein, Rochelle Olivares, and Octavio Ulloa, with support from Lawrence Lyman (Division Director), and Sherri Fleming (County Executive for Travis County HHS).

For questions or for more information, please contact the Research & Planning Division at: HHS\_R&P@traviscountytx.gov

#### **Suggested Citation**

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